

There has been a considerable amount of outrage expressed over the news that A.I.G., a recipient of taxpayer bailout funds (a bailout which Congressman Pence [opposed](#)) has paid out over \$160 million in executive bonuses.

CQ Politics [reports](#) that -

House Republican Conference Chairman Mike Pence, who opposes any bailouts of financial firms, said Democrats will find a receptive audience among his members for moves to roll back AIG bonuses.

"I can assure you that House Republicans, the majority of whom voted not once but twice against Wall Street bailouts, will work with our colleagues to reverse and prevent any use of bailouts for bonuses, past, present or future," Pence said.

House Republicans announced [a set of budget principles](#) that call for an end to bailouts for any financial firm. "We welcome the new-found skepticism in the Democratic leadership and the White House about bailouts. But we ought to go all the way and say no more bailouts," he added.

Congressman Pence spoke out about the AIG bailout and bonuses yesterday at a press conference (below) as well as [cosponsoring legislation](#) that would direct Secretary Geithner to implement a plan within the next two weeks to recoup or stop the payment of AIG bonuses:

The Washington Post had a front page, [above-the-fold story today about the uproar the AIG executive bonus situation has caused](#) . But it quotes Congressman Pence reiterating the larger lesson that should be gleaned from this situation:

"No more bailouts," said Rep. Mike Pence (R-Ind.) "The American people have had it. They want this Congress to get back to fiscal discipline and restraint and the belief that the freedom to succeed includes the freedom to fail." Congressman Pence [also noted](#) that

Bailing out every failing and irresponsible business in America will not put our nation on the path to a growing economy.